

met with success and distinction. Along with Vassar, Smith and Wellesley Colleges, it may claim peership with the strongest of American colleges for either sex, in the ability of its professors, the quality of its material equipment, and the scholarship of its graduate and postgraduate students. Among the honors achieved by the latter is the recent appointment of one of its fellows to the headship of Barnard College, a Department for Women in connection with Columbia College in New York.

President Rhoads' labor and responsibility, with his unsparing devotion to every duty, were very exacting; and, after an illness which impaired his strength, he felt compelled to resign the Presidency of the college in 1894. He was retained as Professor of Ethics, which he had long taught, and as President of the Board of Trustees. In the department of Ethics he was unquestionably a superior teacher. Although, in his own conviction, the "ethics of Jesus" are sufficient for all human needs, his breadth of mind led him to do justice to all side lights upon his subject, from Confucius, Plato and Marcus Aurelius down to Martineau and Herbert Spencer. There was a warmth and radiance in his personality; the man being more always than his teaching or his preaching; so that it was said that no one could be an hour in his company without being the better for it.

In 1890, Union College, in the State of New York, awarded to him the well deserved honorary degree of LL.D. With an increased measure of rest, though still maintaining his interest in philanthropic work, especially in connection with the Indians, and being often engaged in the ministry of the gospel, he seemed, at the beginning of the year 1895, to be gaining in health. On the second of January of this year, however, having walked from his residence to the railway station at Bryn Mawr, intending to go to the city to attend a lecture on a sociological subject, while seated awaiting the coming of the train, his head fell forward, and almost in a moment he expired.

His work was done. Although not a very aged man, it may be said, changing somewhat the words of a familiar line, that "his toil was as the toil of ten, because his heart was pure;" not only pure, but animated by a noble devotion to God and to his fellow-men.

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*Obituary Notice of Henry Coppée, LL.D.*

*By J. G. Rosengarten.*

*(Read before the American Philosophical Society, May 17, 1895.)*

Henry Coppée, LL.D., was born in Savannah, Ga., October 13, 1831. He spent two years at Yale College, in the class of 1839, then studied engineering, and was employed in the construction of the Georgia Central

Railroad from 1837 to 1840. He entered the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, and graduated in 1845.

Gen. Cullum, in his extensive *Biographical Register of the Officers and Graduates of the U. S. Military Academy* (third edition, 1891, Vol. ii, p. 222), gives other particulars of Prof. Coppée's short but distinguished military career. He graduated No. 11 in a class of 123. In it were Gen. William F. ("Baldy") Smith, Gen. Thomas J. Wood, Gen. Charles P. Stone, Gen. Fitzjohn Porter, Gen. John P. Hatch, Gen. John W. Davidson, Gen. D. B. Sacket, Gen. Gordon Granger, Gen. H. B. Clitz, Gen. William H. Wood, Gen. David A. Russell, Gen. Thomas G. Pitcher, all distinguished in the Union Army in the War of the Rebellion, and Gen. Louis Hébert, Gen. Thomas G. Rhett, Gen. James C. Hawes, Gen. R. C. W. Radford, Gen. Barnard E. Bee, of the Confederate Army. Gen. Cullum says that Coppée, having been appointed Cadet July 1, 1841, and graduating July 1, 1845, became a Brevet Second Lieutenant, Second Artillery, July 1, 1845; served at Fort Columbus, N. Y., and became Second Lieutenant, First Artillery, June 18, 1846; served in the war with Mexico, was engaged at the siege of Vera Cruz, March 9-29, 1847; in the battle of Cerro Gordo, April 17, 18; skirmish of La Hoya, June 20; of Ocalaca, August 16; was promoted to First Lieutenant, First Artillery, August 20; engaged in the battle of Contreras, August 19, 20; the battle of Cherubusco, August 20; was brevetted Captain, August 20, for gallant and meritorious conduct in the battles of Contreras and Cherubusco; was engaged in the storming of Chapultepec, September 13, 1847, and in the assault and capture of the City of Mexico, September 13, 14, 1847; he was Assistant Professor of French at the Military Academy, August 22, 1848, to June 22, 1849, and Principal Assistant Professor of Geography, History and Ethics, June 14, 1850, to May 16, 1855, and resigned from the Army June 30, 1855. His literary work is very extensive: From 1864 to 1866, he edited the *United States Service Magazine*. He wrote *Elements of Logic*, published in Philadelphia in 1857; *Gallery of Famous Poets*, 1858; *Elements of Rhetoric*, 1859; *Gallery of Distinguished Poetesses*, 1860; *Select Academic Speaker*, 1861; *Manual of Battalion Drill*, 1862; *Evolutions of the Line*, 1862; *Manual of Court-Martial*, 1863; *Songs of Praise in the Christian Centuries*, 1864; *Life and Services of General U. S. Grant*, 1866; *Manual of English Literature*, 1872; *Lectures on English Literature, considered as an interpreter of English History*, 1872; he also edited a translation of Marmont's *Esprit des institutions militaires*, and the American edition of the Comte de Paris' *Civil War in America*.

Prof. Coppée's most important work is his *History of the Conquest of Spain by the Arab Moors, with a Sketch of the Civilization which they achieved, and imparted to Europe*. Published in Boston in 1881, dedicated to his infant grandson and namesake, it is the result of studies begun when Coppée served as a soldier in Mexico in 1846-1848, and renewed by a brief visit to Spain in 1870, covering a period not touched by Washington Irving, and not included in Prescott—although both are just

within sight, the former outlining it as work yet to be done—the latter taking up the story of Ferdinand and Isabella just at the close of the period covered by Coppée. He drew his information from current histories, from Arabian sources, from contemporary records, and from later Spanish authors, thus giving to the public the results of earnest study of works little known to the general student.

Dr. Coppée was elected a member of the American Philosophical Society on January 14, 1856. He contributed an "Obituary of Washington Irving," Vol. vii, p. 363; a paper on "Flax Culture," Vol. ix, p. 26; and an "Obituary of Gen. O. G. Mitchell," Vol. ix, p. 147, of the *Proceedings* of the Society. The first of these was read September 21, 1860, the last on February 20, 1863, and the two are characteristic alike of Prof. Coppée's love of literature and of the services of his fellow-graduates of West Point, especially of those who, like Gen. Mitchell and like Coppée himself, had won honor in the field of arms and in peace.

When, in 1865, Judge Packer conceived the idea of founding Lehigh University, and looked about to find some one who could undertake the carrying out of his noble plan, Prof. Coppée was elected as the most suitable, and in November of that year the Presidency was offered to and accepted by him. In the following spring he removed to Bethlehem, and the arrangements were made for the opening of the new institution, which was chartered in February and began its work in September. Technical education was in its infancy, and many of the original regulations have been modified from time to time, as the advantage of such changes was demonstrated; but after all these years, the general wisdom of the first foundation has been justified by the fact that so much still remains unaltered, and the name of the first President is written upon much that now exists.

In 1875, President Coppée decided to resign the Presidency and confine himself to literary work, which was so much more congenial to him than the executive duties of his office, but consented to act as President until his successor could be elected. Thrice since, in 1879, in 1890 during the temporary absence of Dr. Lamberton, and from September, 1893, until the time of his death, he filled this office, and administered the affairs of the university with faithfulness and zeal.

In his chair of English Literature he did much to arouse a love for the great models of literary art, and made the study of Shakespeare a delight to large and enthusiastic audiences. His fine taste and beautiful delivery enabled him to give an interpretation of the mighty dramatist which charmed all who heard him. But his fondness for his work of teaching impelled him to unfold his favorite authors to select companies of pupils who appreciated to the full his instruction, hours that will be doubly precious to the memory now that the beloved teacher is at rest.

Dr. Coppée was honored by Union College and by the University of Pennsylvania with the degree of Doctor of Laws, and has had a number of public appointments which show in what high esteem he was held by

all who knew him. During the war he was commissioned a colonel upon the staff of Governor Curtin, and was then chief of staff to Gen. Couch when on the way to Gettysburg.

Gen. Couch writes of him as follows: "Prof. Coppée came to Harrisburg about the 20th of June, with other Pennsylvanians, prepared to organize for the defense of the State against the invasion of Lee. I was very glad to see the Professor, and at once sent him towards Altoona in order to keep me advised of affairs in that portion of my department. He was recalled to Harrisburg on the 24th of June and appointed by me Military Secretary with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel; of course I had no authority to issue commissions, but the exigencies of the hour demanded extreme measures. The Colonel's military education and field experience in Mexico admirably fitted him for the position. I now recollect back thirty-two years, with the anxiety of those momentous days, with an army of new half-armed men and seemingly every burden placed upon my shoulders, that Col. Coppée, with patience and diligence, served the public cause with the earnestness and loyalty of a veteran of the army of the Potomac. On the 10th of July the Colonel accompanied me when Department Headquarters were established at Chambersburg, and continued on duty until the 15th of the same month, the day after Lee had withdrawn his army to Virginia. The exigencies which demanded the Colonel's services having ceased to exist, he returned to his home in Philadelphia."

He was a regent of the Smithsonian Institution for twenty-one years, Lecturer on International Law in Union University Law School, Albany, N. Y., 1875, 1876, and was very active in the councils of the Episcopal Church, of which he was an ardent member. As Senior Warden of the Church of the Nativity, South Bethlehem, delegate to the Diocesan and General Conventions, as member of the committee which prepared the Hymnal, and in many other capacities, he gave his best thought and service to the church of his love.

The space of this memoir will not permit one to really go over in outline the wide activities of this noble life, whose absence is now so keenly felt; and there are other relations of life, which show in a still higher degree his grand qualities, which ought not to be mentioned here, as being too sacred for public discussion. Those who have known of his high-mindedness in all things, his generous friendliness to all who claimed his sympathy and his assistance, are well aware that a splendid soul has gone from us to his well-earned reward. One thing ought not to be forgotten. When you travel through some dense and lofty forest you cannot help noticing how the trees on every side show a lack of symmetry, now gnarled and bent, now dwarfed and stunted. But when you gain the open glade and see some magnificent giant of the wood lifting its head high in the air with perfect proportion and luxuriant foliage, the contrast is very striking, and the beauty of the one is made all the more apparent from the imperfection of the other. And so it is with character.

If we saw only the one-sided and narrow type of man, we should be liable to have a false idea of the nobility to which we can hope to attain ; and the pessimism which blights noble aspirations and checks the growth of true moral ideas would seem to be sound philosophy.

True culture cannot lead us higher than this : to a generous breadth of view and uprightness of soul, to sturdy principle and a steadfast pursuit of the noblest aims ; to sympathy with our fellows, and a ready helpfulness where our influence can direct, can stimulate and elevate.

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*Obituary Notice of Dr. William Samuel Waithman Ruschenberger.*

*By Dr. D. G. Brinton.*

*(Read before the American Philosophical Society, May 17, 1895.)*

The obituary notice which I have to present of our late Vice-President, Dr. William Samuel Waithman Ruschenberger, will be brief, not that materials are deficient to make it longer, but that according to the opinion of those who stood nearest him in life, it was his preference that it should be brief, or even that none should be prepared. It would not be proper for us, however, to permit so distinguished a member of this Society to pass from among us without at least some mention of his long and fruitful activity in the cause of science and progress.

His parents, Peter Ruschenberger and Ann Waithman, resided at the date of his birth, which was September 4, 1807, on a farm near Bridgeton, Cumberland county, New Jersey. The early education he received is stated to have been "in New York and Philadelphia," and when not yet twenty years of age, on August 10, 1826, he was appointed a "surgeon's mate" in the United States Navy, the appointment being from the State of New Jersey. He was immediately sent to the Pacific, and after his return entered the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, from which institution he received the diploma of Doctor of Medicine, March 24, 1830. The following year, April 4, 1831, he was commissioned as surgeon in the United States Navy, and in a short time was again despatched on a long cruise in the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

From 1836 to 1839 he was Fleet Surgeon, and in that position visited Southern Arabia, the Persian Gulf and various parts of the East Indies and China, which at that time were rarely in the track of travelers. About twenty years later, from 1854 to 1857, he was again Fleet Surgeon of the Pacific squadron, which was his last service at sea. Between these dates he was officially employed at the Naval Hospital at New York city, where among other valuable developments, he organized the United States Naval Laboratory, for supplying the service with pure pharmaceutical preparations and carrying on researches into medical questions.